Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations Conference at the General Assembly January 12, 2017

The Joint Leadership Council of Veterans Service Organizations (the JLC) held a conference at the General Assembly Building (morning) and the State Capitol (afternoon) on Thursday, January 12, 2017. Members of the Board of Veterans Services (BVS) joined the morning and afternoon sessions. No business was conducted and no roll was called.

Chairman Bart Barton opened the conference at 9:00 a.m. in the 5 East Conference Room of the General Assembly Building. The conference recessed at 10:50 a.m. to allow attendees time to visit legislators in their offices, attend the "Morning Hour" sessions of the House and Senate as guests in the Galleries at the Capitol, and to have lunch.

Chairman Barton reconvened the conference at 1:00 p.m. in the State Capitol, House Room 3. Members of the VFW joined the afternoon session.

Chairman Barton closed the conference at 3:30 p.m.

The list of speakers who addressed the conference in the morning and afternoon sessions is included as Appendix A.

Members and Alternate Members Present

Bart Barton, Chairman, Air Force Association

Rick Oertel, American Legion

John Cooper, AMVETS

Robert Sempek, Association of the United States Army (AUSA)

Curtis Jennings, Disabled American Veterans

Kenneth Shelton, Sr., Fifth Baptist Veterans Ministry

Bill Ashton, Fleet Reserve Association

Lauren Augustine, Iraq & Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA)

L. T. Whitmore, Korean War Veterans Association

Rich Rinaldo, Legion of Valor

John Clickener, Marine Corps League

Jim Barrett, Marine Corps League

Frank Wickersham, Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)

Don Kaiserman, MOAA

Jim Cuthbertson, *Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH)*

Dan Dennison, National Association for Uniformed Services (NAUS)

Chip Moran, NAUS

Glenn Rodriguez, Navy Seabee Veterans of America

Raymond Kenney, Paralyzed Veterans of America

David K. Sitler, Reserve Officers Association

Terrence Moore, Reserve Officers Association

Perry Taylor, Roanoke Valley Veterans Council

Dan Karnes, Roanoke Valley Veterans Council

Robert Barnette, Virginia Army/Air National Guard Enlisted Association (VaA/ANGEA) Mike Anliker, Virginia National Guard Association Marie Juliano, Women Marines Association

Others Present

Leslie Frazier, Office of the Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs

John Newby, Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Services (DVS)

Karla Boughey, DVS

Carrie Ann Alford, DVS

Annie Walker, DVS

Mark Whiting, DVS

Beverly Van Tull, DVS

Philip Trezza, DVS

Mike Handwerker, DVS

Steven Combs, DVS

Jim Icenhour, Chair, Board of Veterans Services (BVS)

Johnny Johnson, BVS

Nick Kesler, BVS

Belinda Pinckney, BVS

Joana Garcia, BVS

Michael Dick, BVS

Richard Schollmann, Chairman, Veterans Services Foundation (VSF)

Faye Earley, AUSA

Al Pianalto, Veterans Services Foundation (VSF)

Karen Jeffries, Navy Mutual Aid Association

Christina Barille, Virginia Department of Military Affairs

Appendix A

Speakers who addressed the Conference during the Morning Session were:

- Commissioner John Newby (DVS)
- Senator Bryce Reeves, General Assembly sponsor (R-17th)
- Delegate Rich Anderson, General Assembly sponsor (R-51st)
- Speaker of the House of Delegates, William Howell (R-28th)
- Senate Minority Leader, Senator Dick Saslaw (D-35th)
- Governor Terry McAuliffe
- House Majority Leader, Delegate Kirk Cox (R-66th)
- Senator Bill DeSteph (R-8th)
- Delegate Mark Keam (D-35th)
- Delegate Jason Miyares (R-82^{nd)}
- Senator John Edwards (D-21st)
- Delegate Nick Freitas (R-30th)
- Delegate Tag Greason (R-32nd)
- Senator George Barker (D-39th)
- Delegate Chris Stolle (R-83rd)

Speakers who addressed the Conference during the Afternoon Session were:

- Maj Gen Tim Williams, Adjutant General, Virginia National Guard
- Attorney General Mark Herring
- Lieutenant Governor Ralph Northam
- Senator Monty Mason (D-1st)
- Senator Jeremy McPike (D-29th)
- Delegate Kathleen Murphy (D-34th)
- Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs John C. Harvey, Jr.
- First Lady Dorothy McAuliffe
- Delegate Marcus Simon (D-53rd)
- Delegate Scott Lingamfelter (R-50th)